

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/120,512
Applicant : Anthony G. Karandinos et al.
Filed : November 24, 2003
TC/AU. : 1713
Examiner : Roberto Rabago
Docket No. : 1999B060/3
For : *Polypropylene-Based Adhesive Compositions*
Customer No. : 23455

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF JEAN M. TANCREDE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

I, Jean M. Tancrede, hereby declare that:

1. I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Katy, Texas, United States.
2. I was awarded a PhD degree in Organic Chemistry from Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, in 1973. From 1973 to 1974, I was a Post-Doctoral student at the University of Texas conducting research on new organometallic compounds for organic synthesis. From 1974 through 1980, I was employed with Union Carbide Corporation conducting research and development on high performance polymers as well as the synthesis of polymers for adhesive applications. Since 1981 I have been continuously employed as a chemical researcher by ExxonMobil Chemical Company, conducting research and development work concerning, among other things, the synthesis and production of polymers which may be useful as adhesives.
3. I am one of the inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in the above-identified patent application.
4. I understand that in the Office Action dated September 21, 2007 ("Office Action"), the Examiner rejected the specification and claims 14, 15, 16, and 51-60, because the claims allegedly, "contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention." Office Action at

p.s. The Office Action concedes that this application does not disclose methods of making an adhesive comprising a copolymer wherein the MI_{190/2.16} is as low as 78 dg/min while also having an MFR_{230/2.16} greater than 250 dg/min.

5. I participated in the testing and preparation of materials of the claimed subject matter

6. The methods described in the application support claims 14, 15, 16, and 51-60. For example, support for pending claims 14, 15, 16, and 51-60 is provided by:

- Claims 14 and 15 as originally filed;
- Page 11, lines 13+;
- Page 24, line 22 to page 25, line 20;
- Page 29, lines 10-28; and
- Applicants' examples E, H, I, J, and K

7. For each of Applicants' examples E, H, I, J, and K the MFR was determined to be greater than 250 with an MI greater than 78 dg/min as recited in claims 14, 15, 16, and 51-60. Analysis provided the following data:

Copolymer	MW	Approximate MFR	MI (dg/min)
E	58,400	~1270	507
H	12,100	~24	197
I	76,400	~411	209
J	63,800	~875	368
K	64,000	~864	289

8. One of ordinary skill in the art would know and be aware, without speculation or undue experimentation, that claims 14, 15, 16, and 51-60 are described by the patent application.

9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date 1/22/08

Jean M. Tancrede
Dr. Jean M. Tancrede